

**Mansfield Advisory Committee
on the Needs of Persons with Disabilities
Tuesday March 26, 2013**

In Attendance: Fred Goetz, Cristina Colon-Semenza, Carole Masters, Gloria Bent, Jennifer Tanner Kevin Grunwald (staff), Kathy Ann Easley (staff), Donna Korbel (UCONN)

Regrets: Tammie Meyers, Imanuel Wexler

Guests: Town Council Member Antonia Moran, Town Manager Matt Hart, And Assistant Town Manager Maria Capriola

Call to Order by F. Goetz at 2:30 p.m.

The minutes of the February 26, 2013 meeting were approved with a correction to the spelling of Korbel.

New Business (other added by group consensus)

Welcome New Members: Introductions and welcome to Carole Masters, newly appointed member of the committee.

Staffing Issues

A. Moran, chair of the town's personnel committee, reviewed personnel committee discussion about how best to fill the three positions that will soon be vacant in the Human Services Department in light of state budget proposals as well as the budgeting issues the town council is facing. The personnel committee is seeking input from town advisory boards whose constituents are served by town social services to help determine if the town is providing the correct array of services.

M. Hart shared a memo he prepared that gives an overview of the situation. Currently the positions of

Director of Human Services, Senior Services Social Worker and Youth Services Social Worker are all in the proposed budget, at the current number of hours per week. He noted that the Town Council also anticipates the addition of hours for the Senior Transportation coordinator's position to improve services provided to seniors through this service. MACPD is asked to review the three questions included in the memo. A. Moran, M. Hart and M. Capriola will return to the April MACPD meeting for the group's feedback. The committee will communicate via email to determine if an additional committee meeting is needed to complete this task.

Other

The committee unanimously agreed to the addition of one item: The referral of two zoning permits to PZC for additions to the Storrs Downtown.

The Committee reviewed the plans for accessible parking spaces and access to the buildings in the two areas to be developed. The following questions for PZC were identified: are the spaces behind university plaza van accessible? If the grade is too steep for a ramp at the entrance to Price Chopper is there another location for one or could an elevator be added? The committee asked that K. Grunwald draft a memo to PZC raising these questions.

Old Business

Bicentennial Pond Universal Access Trail

MACPD was asked to write a letter of support for the plan to make the Bicentennial Pond Trail universally accessible. K. Grunwald presented a copy of the letter he drafted that was previously reviewed and commented on via email by committee members. The committee approved the letter as presented.

K.Grunwald announced that while it was initially thought that only part of the trail could be made accessible, it has been determined that it will be possible to make all of the trail accessible.

Storrs Center Parking: report from Traffic Authority meeting. F. Goetz, J. Tanner, I. Wexler and K. Grunwald attended a Traffic Authority meeting concerning on street parking in the downtown center. MACPD had sent a letter expressing concern at the lack of accessible on street parking. As a result of the meeting, there will be five accessible on street spaces and two of them will be van accessible.

ADA Study

D. Korbel will do a walk through with us on ADA issues, updates and amendments to ADA at a future meeting.

Accessibility of trails and parks

No action taken.

Accessibility issues previously identified

Bolton Road curb cuts: C. Colon-Semenza sent photos of a crosswalk on Bolton Road that does have curb cuts. J. Tanner shared photos of a sidewalk on Bolton Road without a curb cut. D. Korbel pointed out that in J. Tanner's photo the painted cross walk was there to assist individuals with low vision and that the sidewalk in question was not one that would be used by those with restricted mobility as the accessible spaces are at the other end of the parking lot, where there are curb cuts.

Adjournment: 3:40 p.m. Next meeting April 23, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Gloria Bent, Recording Secretary